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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Group Art Unit: 3763

MIDDLEMAN et al.) Examiner: Cris L. Rodriguez

Serial No.: 09/123,614)

Filed: June 28, 1998)

For: DEVICE FOR ANCHORING)
TUBULAR ELEMENT) Pasadena, California

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 28 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the final Office Action mailed on November 18, 2003.

Applicants hereby submit the following amendments and remarks.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO:
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON JANUARY 20, 2004

BY: ELAINE PORTER

Elaine Porter